NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREEZE ACT OF 1982

SUMMARY STATEMENT

In the interest of preventing nuclear war, reversing the economic impact of weapons spending, and safeguarding District of Columbia residents, it shall be the policy of the District of Columbia to:

(1) support a United States - Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze as a first step toward arms reduction;

(2) encourage redirection of resources to jobs and human needs; and

(3) recognize prevention of nuclear war as the only defense against nuclear destruction.

The Mayor is directed to appoint an uncompensated advisory board, and to use existing authority to propose to the Executive and Congress immediate negotiation of a nuclear weapons freeze.

D.C. CAMPAIGN FOR A
NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREEZE

INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. _____

BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare District of Columbia public policy supporting a mutual United States - Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze, redirection of resources to job creation and human needs, and avoidance of nuclear war; and to implement that policy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Nuclear Weapons Freeze Act of 1982."

Sec. 2. <u>Declaration of Policy</u>. In the interest of preventing nuclear war, reversing the economic impact of weapons spending, and safeguarding District of Columbia residents, and recognizing that civil defense cannot provide protection from nuclear destruction, it is by the Electors declared the public policy of the District of Columbia to support:

(1) a mutual United States - Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze as a first step toward arms reduction;

(2) redirection of resources to job creation and human needs; and

(3) avoidance of nuclear war, not futile preparation to withstand nuclear attack.

Sec. 3. <u>Establishment of Advisory Board</u>. The Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall appoint an uncompensated Nuclear Weapons Freeze Advisory Board of not less than three and not more than seven residents of the District of Columbia. Board members shall be appointed to two-year terms. The Board shall continue in existence until the Mayor determines that the objectives of the policy declared in §2 have been fully attained.

Sec. 4. <u>Advisory Board Duties</u>. The Board shall:

(1) identify District of Columbia agency activities pertaining to nuclear war and prepare a report to the Mayor concerning actions that should be taken by such District of Columbia agencies to implement the policy declared in §2; and

(2) prepare information concerning:

(a) the nuclear weapons build-up;

(b) the foreseeable effects of a nuclear attack on the District of Columbia;

(c)   the feasibility of civil defense against nuclear attack; and

(d)   the implications of a policy supporting:

(i)   a mutual United States - Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze as a first step toward arms reduction;

(ii)   redirection of resources to job creation and human needs; and

(iii)   avoidance of nuclear war, not preparation to withstand nuclear attack.

Sec. 5.   <u>Proposal to Congress and the Executive</u>.   Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act, the Mayor shall propose to Congress, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the President the immediate negotiation with the Soviet Union of a permanent, mutual freeze on the testing, production, and further deployment of all nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.

Sec. 6.   <u>Severability</u>.   If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstances, is held invalid, the remainder of this act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.

Sec. 7.   <u>Effective Date</u>.   This measure shall become effective in accordance with Section 5 of Public Law 95-526, Sec. 1(3), amending the Initiative, Referendum, and Recall Charter Amendment Act of 1977 (D.C. Law 2-46), and Section 602(c) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act.